

Please provide complete and well-written solutions to the following exercises.

Due March 9, in the discussion section.

Homework 7

Exercise 1. Let $m \geq 1$. Show by integral comparison of infinite series that

$$\sum_{j=m}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j^2} \leq \frac{10}{m}.$$

Exercise 2 (Renewal Theory). Let t_1, t_2, \dots be positive, independent identically distributed random variables. Let $\mu \in \mathbf{R}$. Assume $\mathbf{E}t_1 = \mu$. For any positive integer j , we interpret t_j as the lifetime of the j^{th} lightbulb (before burning out, at which point it is replaced by the $(j+1)^{\text{st}}$ lightbulb). For any $n \geq 1$, let $T_n := t_1 + \dots + t_n$ be the total lifetime of the first n lightbulbs. For any positive integer t , let $N_t := \min\{n \geq 1: T_n \geq t\}$ be the number of lightbulbs that have been used up until time t . Show that N_t/t converges almost surely to $1/\mu$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. (Hint: by definition of N_t , we have $T_{N_t-1} < t \leq T_{N_t}$. Now divide the inequalities by N_t and apply the Strong Law.)

Exercise 3 (Playing Monopoly Forever). Let t_1, t_2, \dots be independent random variables, all of which are uniform on $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$. For any positive integer j , we think of t_j as the result of rolling a single fair six-sided die. For any $n \geq 1$, let $T_n = t_1 + \dots + t_n$ be the total number of spaces that have been moved after the n^{th} roll. (We think of each roll as the amount of moves forward of a game piece on a very large Monopoly game board.) For any positive integer t , let $N_t := \min\{n \geq 1: T_n \geq t\}$ be the number of rolls needed to get t spaces away from the start. Using Exercise 2, show that N_t/t converges almost surely to $2/7$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

Exercise 4 (Random Numbers are Normal). Let X be a uniformly distributed random variable on $(0, 1)$. Let X_1 be the first digit in the decimal expansion of X . Let X_2 be the second digit in the decimal expansion of X . And so on.

- Show that the random variables X_1, X_2, \dots are uniform on $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, 9\}$ and independent.
- Fix $m \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 9\}$. Using the Strong Law of Large Numbers, show that with probability one, the fraction of appearances of the number m in the first n digits of X converges to $1/10$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

(Optional): Show that for any ordered finite set of digits of length k , the fraction of appearances of this set of digits in the first n digits of X converges to 10^{-k} as $n \rightarrow \infty$. (You already proved the case $k = 1$ above.) That is, a randomly chosen number in $(0, 1)$ is normal. On the other hand, if we just pick some number such that $\sqrt{2} - 1$, then it may not be easy to say whether or not that number is normal.

(As an optional exercise, try to explicitly write down a normal number. This may not be so easy to do, even though a random number in $(0, 1)$ satisfies this property!)

Exercise 5. Let X_1, X_2, \dots be random variables with mean zero and variance one. The Strong Law of Large Numbers says that $\frac{1}{n}(X_1 + \dots + X_n)$ converges almost surely to zero. The Central Limit Theorem says that $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}(X_1 + \dots + X_n)$ converges in distribution to a standard Gaussian random variable. But what happens if we divide by some other power of n ? This Exercise gives a partial answer to this question.

Let $\varepsilon > 0$. Show that

$$\frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n^{1/2}(\log n)^{(1/2)+\varepsilon}}$$

converges to zero almost surely as $n \rightarrow \infty$. (Hint: Re-do the proof of the Strong Law of Large Numbers, but divide by $n^{1/2}(\log n)^{(1/2)+\varepsilon}$ instead of n .)

Exercise 6. Let A, B be events in a sample space. Let C_1, \dots, C_n be events such that $C_i \cap C_j = \emptyset$ for any $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, and such that $\cup_{i=1}^n C_i = B$. Show:

$$\mathbf{P}(A|B) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{P}(A|B, C_i)\mathbf{P}(C_i|B).$$

(Hint: consider using the Total Probability Theorem and that $\mathbf{P}(\cdot|B)$ is a probability law.)